

the current number of the *Melbourne Review* returned 2 candidates not returned by the above process, and these were returned on 13 votes each.

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ART. VII.—*On Some Curious Effects of Lightning at Gabo Island.*

BY ARNOLD LILLY.

[Read August 10th, 1880.]

IN the early part of January last I had occasion to visit the lighthouse and meteorological station upon Gabo Island. Two days before my arrival, on the 7th of the month, there had been a very severe thunderstorm, which traversed all the eastern districts of the colony and apparently came to a climax in the neighbourhood of Cape Howe and Gabo Island; here it raged for about three hours, accompanied by a full gale of wind and a very heavy sea. From what Mr. Fanning, the lighthouse-keeper, experienced in the lantern, and from what was seen by others outside, there is no doubt that the lighthouse was, in common parlance, struck by lightning. The lighthouse, I should explain, is built of granite, with a central iron column supporting the iron frame of the lantern which contains the light. There is a wire conductor connected with the lower part of the lantern, carried outside the lighthouse down to its base, and over the rocks into the sea, but there was apparently no pointed terminal upon the roof. In this case the lightning appears to have travelled down the iron column instead of down the wire conductor, and to have met with bad earth contact where it passed into the granite and concrete of the base, for Mr. Fanning states that the whole lighthouse seemed to rock from its foundations, and in the morning the pattern shown in the accompanying diagram was found traced in the sand, which was lying about a quarter of an inch thick on the basement floor of concrete; this sand was left undisturbed until my visit, and

